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#1 #1 #1

~~SECRET~~ 291030Z APR 68 CITE

PRIORITY DIRECTOR INFO

#445

REF: DIRECTOR 93162

ACTION 29 APR 68 00056

1. AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE ADVISES THAT MAJ. BERNARD F. REHKOPF, USAF ASSIGNED TO MACHTAI, HAS BEEN IN TOUCH ASKING ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING AN FBI OFFICIAL. REHKOPF CLAIMS THAT HIS DAUGHTER RITA, WHO FORMERLY WORKED IN BANGKOK FOR LAW FIRM AND IS NOW BASED IN NEW ORLEANS WITH DELTA AIRLINES, HAS TELEPHONED HIM FROM NEW ORLEANS APPROX EIGHT TIMES IN LAST SEVERAL NIGHTS. SHE STATES SHE IS IN THE HANDS OF FBI; SHE CLAIMS THAT SHE KNEW JAMES EARL RAY AND SAYS SHE KNOWS HE WENT TO LONDON. SHE FURTHER CLAIMS THAT FBI IS PAYING FOR HER PHONE CALLS, AT THE SAME TIME IMPLYING, AT LEAST AS FAR AS REHKOPF IS CONCERNED, THAT SHE IS UNDER A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DURESS.

2. REHKOPF IS VERY DISTRAUGHT AND CONCERNED FOR DAUGHTER'S WELFARE. AIR FORCE ADVISED HIM THAT THEY WOULD TRY TO PUT FBI IN TOUCH WITH HIM. THEY HAVE ASKED HIM NOT TO DO ANYTHING DRASTIC, SUCH AS SURFACING MATTER TO THE PRESS,

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29 Apr 68
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AND THEY ARE REASONABLY SURE THAT HE WILL COMPLY, AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT. HOWEVER, HE WANTS ASSURANCES FROM FBI THAT DAUGHTER IS BEING WELL TREATED AND IS IN ^{NO}~~ON~~ DANGER.

3. RECOMMEND HQS ADVISE FBI HQS FOR ACTION AS APPROPRIATE. SUGGEST ^{CIA}~~STATION~~ ALSO PASS GIST OF ABOVE TO LEGAL ATTACHE. THERE IS OF COURSE, POSSIBILITY THAT RITA MERELY HAS AN ACTIVE IMAGINATION. HER REPUTATION WHILE HERE WAS THAT OF FLIGHTY AND IMMATURE PERSONALITY.

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